

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method of transferring one or more data files to a computer system comprising:
- determining whether a clear-to-send flag associated with the computer system is asserted; and
- transferring a data file to the computer system if the clear-to-send flag is
- 10 asserted.
2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
- negating the clear-to-send flag after transferring the data file.
- 15 3. The method of Claim 2 further comprising:
- receiving a receipt acknowledgment from the computer system indicating that the computer system received the data file; and
- reasserting the clear-to-send flag in response to receiving the receipt acknowledgment.
- 20 4. The method of Claim 3 further comprising:
- invoking the determining, and transferring steps in response to reasserting the clear-to-send flag.
- 25 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the one or more data files are in a sequential order and the method further comprises:
- reading a status file associated with the computer system, wherein the status file includes a file indicator indicating which of the one or more data files should be transferred to the computer system;
- 30 determining a data file to transfer to the computer system based on a file indicator; and

updating the file indicator to indicate the next file in the sequence of the one or more data files.

6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

5 receiving an invoking command indicating that another data file is available to be transferred; and
invoking the querying, determining, and transferring steps.

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7. A method of transferring a sequence of data files from a primary system to a plurality of secondary systems, wherein each of the secondary systems responds after receiving a data file, the method comprising:

selecting a first secondary system;

5 determining whether a clear-to-send (CTS) flag associated with the first
secondary system is asserted;

identifying a first data file that is to be transferred to the first secondary system;

determining whether the first data file is available for transfer; and

10 if the first data file is available and if the CTS flag is asserted, transferring the
first data file to the first secondary system.

8. The method of Claim 7 further comprising:

repeating the selecting, determining, identifying, determining, and transferring

15 steps for each of the plurality of secondary systems.

9. The method of Claim 8 wherein identifying comprises:

retrieving secondary system data associated with the first secondary system, wherein the secondary system data includes a data file indicator indicating which of the sequence of data files is to be transferred to the first secondary system.

10. The method of Claim 7 further comprising:

depositing a data file into the sequence of data files.

12. A primary system for transferring a plurality of sequentially ordered data files to a plurality of secondary systems comprising:

a sequence broker operable to read a clear-to-send flag associated with one of the secondary systems, identify one of the data files to be transferred to the secondary system, and issue a transfer command to transfer the identified data file;

a transmit broker in operable communication with the sequence broker receiving the transfer command and responsively transferring the identified data file to the secondary system; and

a clear-to-send broker operable to receive an acknowledgment from the secondary system and responsively assert the clear-to-send flag associated with the secondary system.

13. The system of Claim 12 further comprising:

a database for receiving and storing the plurality of sequentially ordered data files;

an invoking module in operable communication with the sequence broker and the database, the invoking module storing the plurality of sequentially ordered data files in the database and issuing a new file command to the sequence broker, the new file command notifying the sequence broker that the database has data files stored in it.

14. The primary system of Claim 12 wherein the clear-to-send module is in operable communication with the sequence broker and the clear-to-send module is operable to send an invoking command to the sequence broker after asserting the clear-to-send flag.

15. The system of Claim 12 wherein the primary system is in operable communication with the secondary systems via a communications network.

16. The system of Claim 15 wherein the communications network is the Internet.